DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 124 405 IR 003 457

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TITLE Library Co-operation in Great Britain: 1915-1972.
PUB DATE 76
NOTE 41p.; Charts in document may be marginally legible due to small type

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$2.06 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Centralization; County Libraries; Decentralized Library Systems; History; Interinstitutional Cooperation; Interlibrary Loans; Library Collections; *Library Cooperation; Library Programs; Library Role; *National Libraries; Public Libraries; *Regional Libraries; University Libraries
IDENTIFIERS *Great Britain

ABSTRACT

Cooperative library programs in Great Britain began with suggestions made in the 1915 Adams report commissioned by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. Following the report's recommendations and with grants from the trust, countries began library services to rural areas and the Central Library for Students (CLS) was formed and later became a clearinghouse for interlibrary loans. Recommendations adopted from the 1927 Kenyon report led to formation of regional library systems and centers and to the evolution of CLS into the National Central Library (NCL) in 1931. The 1942 McColvin report focused on dissatisfactions with the system, while the 1952 Vollans report examined some of its problems. Resulting recommendations led to cooperative acquisitions and the establishment of special subject collections. The Roberts report in 1959 led to the 1964 Public Libraries Act to provide supervision for public libraries and statutory provisions for regional councils. The innovative acquisitions policies of the director of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology (NLLST), the 1963 Parry report on university libraries, and especially the 1969 Dainton report on centralization led to the present reorganization of the system. The mainstay of the new system is the British Library and its four divisions: lending, which encompasses NCL and NLLST; reference, headed by the British Museum Library; bibliographic services; and central administration. (LS)

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# Library Co-operation in Great Britain: 1915 - 1972

by

Kathleen M. Heim

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Library co-operation, nation-wide, has been over fifty years developing in Great Britain. Its tendency in earlier phases is analogous to developments in the U. S. public library systems currently in place, especially in its emphasis on regional co-operation, multi-level agencies for the co-ordination of inter-library operations, and tolerance of privileged collections maintained outside the province of the co-operative system. In its most recent phase, British library inter-lending co-operation has achieved a comprehensiveness and centralized institutionalization that only lately have American librarians begun to consider a desirable, if difficult, goal for the United States.

What the British have achieved compares in principle and scope with the recently enunciated program of the U. S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (N.C.L.I.S.). The N.C.L.I.S. program states:

> . . .the total library and information resource in the United States is a national resource which should be developed, strengthened, organized, and made available to the maximum degree possible in the public interest. . . . all the people of the United States have the right, according to their individual needs, to realistic and convenient access to this national resource for their personal enrichment and achievement.[1]

Provision for such services co-ordinated through a single U. S. federal agency was not made until the enabling legislation, PL-345, was signed into law on July 20, 1970. This marked the first U. S. effort to create an advisory agency to stimulate all aspects of library services on a national basis.

However sophisticated by comparison with the U. S. the contemporary British national lending system, it is nevertheless the product of an evolution. The developments from which it emerged are most instructive in light of the N.C.L.I.S. program and the foundation in the U. S. public library system on which a national program must be built. Indeed, the U. S. public library system, as manifest in such states as Illinois, resembles nothing so much as the fifty-year old, but now largely displaced, British Regional Library system. The fact of recent changes in the British system--of throwing over the regional concept in favor of centralization--after the experience of years of refining the regional system of lending co-operation is something U. S. librarians might profitably consider before expanding the tendencies of our present systems.

While the British have made many mistakes on their path to an "Organized National Service," it is, nevertheless, important to realize that such a service was conceived on a national basis already in 1927. By 1935 British co-operation had instituted the machinery to obtain any available book for any British citizen.

The impetus for this early and broadly based co-operative system was firmly rooted in the public library and adult education movements. This is the converse of U. S. development where the larger research libraries have been at the vanguard of co-operative activities. However, while British university and research librarians have been acutely aware of the advances made in library co-operation by U.S. research libraries, and have consistently cited the Farminton Plan and the Center for Research Libraries in their literature as they sought to extend and better their services, the American public library community has been relatively unaware of the half-century of development, successes and errors, of the British public library service. Now that the American public library community is addressing itself to the issues of national co-operation in lending, an investigation into the historical experience of British co-operation that ultimately led to the re-organization of the entire British library system seems belatedly to the point.

## The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust and The Adams Report

A trust of £ 100,000 a year established by Andrew Carnegie in 1913 for the educational benefit of the working classes of Great Britain and Ireland was instrumental in creating an atmosphere amenable to library co-operation. Instead of functioning simply as a money dispensing organization, the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust (C.U.K.T.) was active in seeking out areas in which it might do the most good. One of its first actions was to commission a study of the libraries which had received Carnegie grants in order that future policy might be determined. The resultant study, A Report on Library Provision and Policy, was executed in 1915 by W. G. S. Adams, an Oxford Professor of Political Theory and Institutions, was the first of a series of C.U.K.T. and governmental reports which were to have great effects on the development of library co-operation in Britain.

Two of Adams' recommendations to the C.U.K.T. were of major consequence: (1) provision of library services to rural districts (thirty-eight percent in Britain and fifty-four percent in Wales had no service) with suggestions for the implementation of such service,[2] and (2) creation of a "central lending library, common to the Workers' Educational Association, the Adult School Movement, and all other organizations of working men and women which are carrying on systematic study work."[3]

## Development of County Libraries

C.U.K.T. support of the rural library scheme recommended by Adams was

quickly forthcoming. Twenty rural schemes were in operation by 1920 and were evolving into "county" libraries due to their affiliation with the County Library Authority.[4] The county library, based on a central collection of books and at times dependent on the major population center of the county, distributed books to points throughout the area and served districts which had no libraries. In its annual report of 1921 the C.U.K.T. notes that to give readers access to expensive books, public libraries, even those not part of the rural scheme because of their relative affluence and provision with a facility, might be "co-ordinated on a county basis."[5]

From this modest suggestion for co-operation among separate agencies (county and borough) the C.U.K.T. soon expanded its concept of co-operation on a regional scale to propose:

> It is hoped gradually to build up a systematic and properly co-ordinated service with a national loan collection (the Central Library for Students) as a reserve, the great Municipal Libraries serving not only their own public, but also--on terms to be arranged--the regions of which they are the natural centres. . . . With a simple system of joint or 'union' cataloging, and possibly in time of co-operative book buying.[6]

In 1924 when the C.U.K.T. published a sequel to the Adams Report, fifty nine counties had applied to the C.U.K.T. for grants. The apparatus for national service no matter what the density of the population or level of funding was ready

Central Library for Students

The Adams Report also included a strong recommendation that a central lending library be created. Higher education for the lower classes was being implemented in Workers' Educational Associations and Adult Schools but these students had no access to the books that their advanced studies required. Adams noted that over 3000 students enrolled in such studies constitute a "university of the workers."[7] He suggested a central lending library be stocked to meet their needs.

Adams' recommendation caused the Central Joint Advisory Committee on Tutorial Classes to apply for a grant in order to create a Central Library for Students (C.L.S.). When the application was approved the C.L.S. began work in 1916 issuing 4,000 books its first year. The honorary librarian, Alfred W. Pollard, described the first year's work of the C.L.S. in the Library Association Record and pointed out that the library was not only for the good of those affiliated with studies programs but for "individual students of all kinds."[8]

In 1918 Kendal Public Library of Westmorland subscribed to the C.L.S. in order to borrow books. Kendal Public Library had been serving the whole county

even before the Adams Report. A C.U.K.T. grant was made to Kendal when the Trust was exploring alternative methods of encouraging rural service. Kendal, already independently imbued with the spirit of service and co-operation, did so well with the extra money from the Trust that the county council eventually granted money for county service.[9] It was natural that this library with its history of co-operation would be one of the first to turn to the C.L.S. for needs it was unable to meet.

This aspect of the C.L.S. was made official in 1919 when a government committee on Adult Education[10] recommended (1) The C.L.S. should be regarded as the nucleus of a larger Central Circulating Library, which would (a) supplement the collections of local public libraries by loaning expensive and specialized books which they could not provide, (b) supplement special libraries, and (c) loan to individuals not served by any library, (2) The Central Circulating Library should organize bibliographic information and index periodical literature, (3) The Central Circulating Library should be funded by subscriptions from local authorities and subsidized by the government.

Endorsement of these recommendations by the Library Association resulted in thirty-nine public libraries subscribing to the C.L.S. A C.U.K.T. grant in 1920 enabled the C.L.S. to serve the infant system of county libraries.

Expansion of the resources of the C.L.S. occurred in 1923-24 when the C.U.K.T. began grants to special libraries on the condition that their collections be made available through the C.L.S. These libraries, termed "Outlier" (outlying) libraries, included the College of Nursing, King's College for Women and the Royal Aeronautical Society. The Outlier system expanded steadily taking in the resources of the Royal Anthropological Institute, the Solon Ceramic Library, the League of Nations Union and Geographical Association by 1926.

The first decade of the C.L.S. saw its evolution from a storehouse for adult and isolated students to a full-blown clearinghouse for loans among libraries. The rapidity with which the C.L.S. acquired tacit status as a national clearinghouse attests to the belief of British librarians that all citizens, even the most isolated, have intellectual rights. The most outstanding feature of this belief was the willing co-operation among widely diverse libraries to share resources through the C.L.S.

## The Kenyon Report: Toward an "Organized National Service"

In 1924 the Board of Education appointed a committee to "enquire into the

adequacy of the library provision made under the Public Libraries Acts, and the means of extending such provision throughout England and Wales."[11] This committee, chaired by Sir Frederic G. Kenyon, which met over the course of the next two years produced a report in 1927 that was epoch making in terms of the influence it was to exercise over the development of British national library co-operation during the next twenty-five years. The report, which analyzed the utility and efficiency of the library system, included an entire chapter of recommendations on "An Organized National Service," a seminal document in the evolution of co-operation in Britain.

A distillation of the major recommendations of the Kenyon Report illustrates the great advances in concepts of and attitudes toward co-operative effort which the British library community had come to earlier than any other nation: (1) voluntary co-operation between neighboring libraries, (2) grouping of public libraries around regional centers, (3) a pooling of the resources of special libraries, and (4) a Central Library as the center of the entire system.[12] Of these recommendations it was (2) and (4) which, when implemented, were to form the basis of national library co-operation.

## The Regional Library System

The Kenyon Report advised a federation of libraries called "Regional Library Systems" to be established according to natural and geographic considerations. The regional headquarters would be the strongest library in the area. In most cases this would be the library of the principal borough, though in areas with no principal borough the county library might assume responsibility or in thinly populated areas several counties might merge into a regional system. Whatever the arrangement the Regional System would help to avoid duplication of expensive items and provide greater resources to smaller libraries through a method of payment to the stronger libraries.[13]

Grants from the C.U.K.T. were instrumental in establishing the Regional Systems recommended by Kenyon. The first Regional Library System was established in Newcastle as the Northern Regional Library System with participating libraries in the area sending cards to a union catalog at the Regional headquarters and the Regional library sending a duplicate card to the N.C.L. This pattern was followed by other regions and eleven bureaus were ultimately established--most of them covering several counties--and all but the London and South Eastern including special and university libraries. (See appendix I for a list of regions

and counties covered.)

Evolution of the C.S.L. into the National Central Library

The Kenyon Report regarded a central library as the most "indispensable feature of a national library service." Recommendations for its establishment included (1) direct aid through responsible bodies of organized student groups, (2) aid through the public library of the individual whose needs cannot be met by local sources, and (3) serving as a link between special and public libraries.[14]

Although it was recommended that the central library be affiliated with the British Museum Library the Kenyon committee noted that the role of the central library would be to establish relations with other libraries, and to meet their needs either through the provision of books from a central stock (separate from that of the British museum), or by borrowing the required item from another library.

Action on the Kenyon report was deferred until the Royal Commission on National Museums and Galleries acted in 1929 to establish a National Central Library (N.C.L.) based on the old C.L.S. entirely separate from the British Museum. A Royal Charter in 1931 marked the formal establishment of the N.C.L. and established the purposes of the N.C.L. as (1) to supply books on loan to libraries, (2) to supply books on loan to adult student groups, (3) to act as a clearing house for loans of books between libraries, (4) to act as a center for bibliographical information, and (5) to facilitate access to books and information about books.[15]

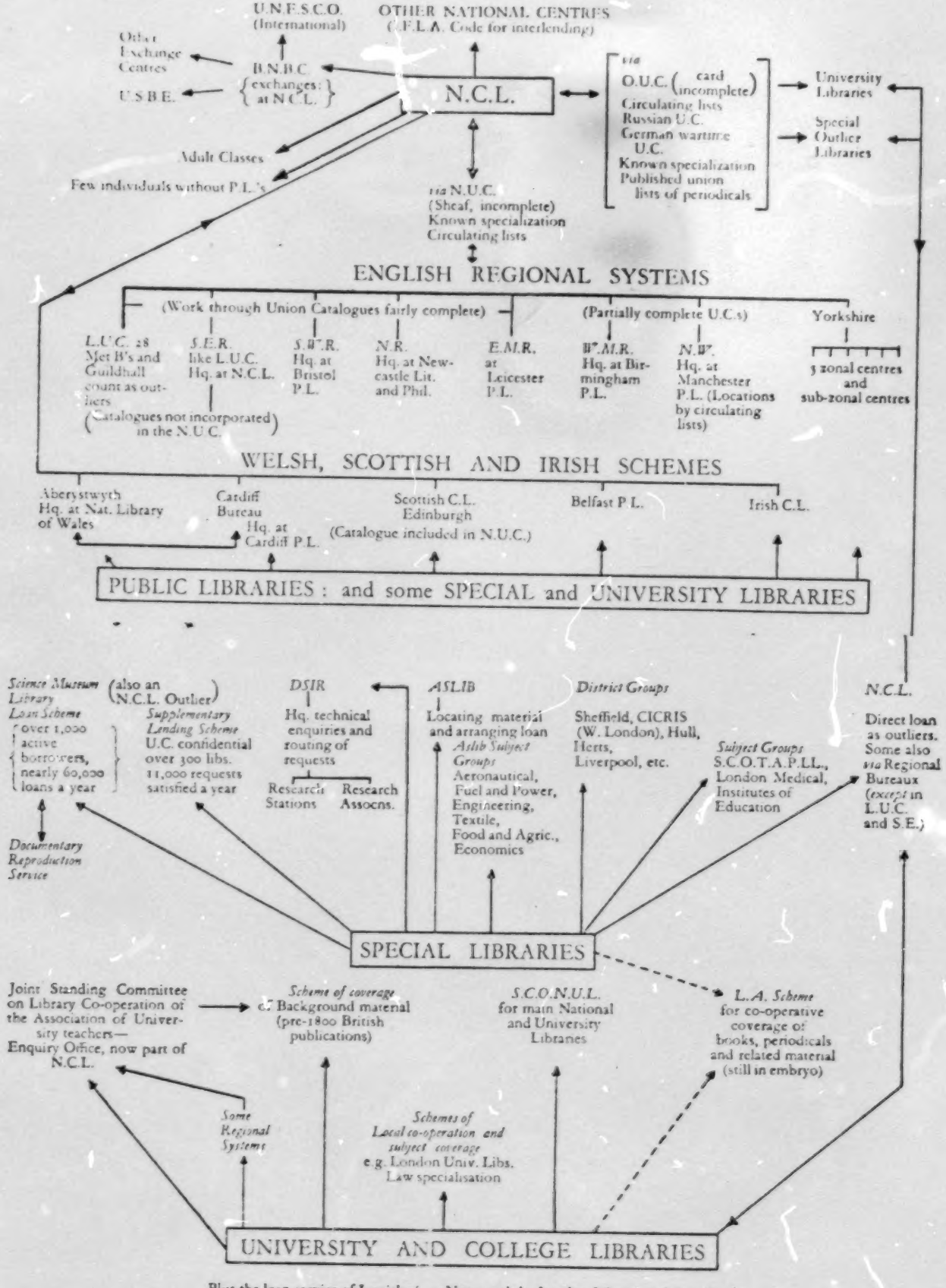
The establishment of the N.C.L. coincided with the growing Regional Library System and the deposit therein of catalog cards from the regions after 1932 created a National Union Cataloque as a cumulation of entries from the regions. Unfortunately, lack of uniformity among the regions (i.e., Yorkshire never maintained a regional union catalog) meant that the N.C.L. catalog was not a total representation of the nation's holdings, but nevertheless a workable mechanism for interlibrary lending was created.

Thus by the mid-1930's it was possible for any individual in Britain to obtain materials through the regional system via the N.C.L. The Kenyon Report had gone far to foster the climate of effective interlibrary co-operation. Its far-seeing recommendations coupled with the C.U.K.T.'s financial support were in the main responsible for Britain's reputation for progressive policies of national co-operation.

Briefly the national system works by a system of switching. Requests not filled at the local level are sent by the library to the regional center where the item is checked against regional holdings. If no agency within the region owns the item the request is transferred to the N.C.L. which checks all the regions via its union catalog as well as the outlier catalogs of special library holdings. Once located the requests are forwarded to the owning library. A major flaw in this system is the non-participation of the great research collections in the British Museum, the Bodleian, at Cambridge, and other deposit libraries. Other universities did participate in co-operation to varying degrees. In 1925 the Association of University Teachers (A.U.T.) formed a Joint Standing Committee on Library Co-operation to facilitate lending. Once the C.L.S. became the N.C.L. university loans were switched theough that agency.

The rather complicated nature of inter-library co-operation as co-ordinated through the N.C.L. and the Regional Bureaux is best illustrated by a flow chart of operations which P.H. Sewell included in his Library Association Pamphlet, The Regional Library Systems.

# LIBRARY CO-OPERATION IN THE BRITISH ISLES


U.N.E.S.C.O. (International)
OTHER NATIONAL CENTRES (C.E.L.A. Code for interlending)
Other Exchange Centres
B.N.B.C. exchanges: at N.C.L.
U.S.B.E.
N.C.L.
via O.U.C. (card incomplete)
Circulating lists
Russian U.C.
German wartime U.C.
Known specialization
Published union lists of periodicals
University Libraries
Special Outlier Libraries
Adult Classes
Few individuals without P.L.'s
via N.U.C. (Sheaf, incomplete)
Known specialization
Circulating lists
ENGLISH REGIONAL SYSTEMS
(Work through Union Catalogues fairly complete)
(Partially complete U.C.s)
Yorkshire
L.U.C. 28 Met B's and Guildhall count as outliers
S.E.R. like L.U.C. Hq. at N.C.L.
S.W.R. Hq. at Bristol P.L.
N.R. Hq. at Newcastle Lit. and Phil.
E.M.R. at Leicester P.L.
W.M.R. Hq. at Birmingham P.L.
N.W. Hq. at Manchester P.L. (Locations by circulating lists)
3 zonal centres and sub-zonal centres
(Catalogues not incorporated in the N.U.C.)
WELSH, SCOTTISH AND IRISH SCHEMES
Aberystwyth Hq. at Nat. Library of Wales
Cardiff Bureau Hq. at Cardiff P.L.
Scottish C.L. Edinburgh (Catalogue included in N.U.C.)
Belfast P.L.
Irish C.L.
PUBLIC LIBRARIES : and some SPECIAL and UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
Science Museum Library Loan Scheme (also an N.C.L. Outlier)
over 1,000 active borrowers, nearly 60,000 loans a year
Supplementary Lending Scheme
U.C. confidential over 300 lbs. 11,000 requests satisfied a year
Documentary Reproduction Service
DSIR
Hq. technical enquiries and routing of requests
Research Stations
Research Assocns.
ASLIB
Locating material and arranging loan
Aslib Subject Groups
Aeronautical, Fuel and Power, Engineering, Textile, Food and Agric., Economics
District Groups
Sheffield, CICRIS (W. London), Hull, Herts, Liverpool, etc.
Subject Groups
S.C.O.T.A.P.L.L., London Medical, Institutes of Education
N.C.L.
Direct loan as outliers. Some also via Regional Bureaux (except in L.U.C. and S.E.)
SPECIAL LIBRARIES
Joint Standing Committee on Library Co-operation of the Association of University teachers—Enquiry Office, now part of N.C.L.
Scheme of coverage of Background material (pre-1800 British publications)
S.C.O.N.U.L. for main National and University Libraries
L.A. Scheme for co-operative coverage of books, periodicals and related material (still in embryo)
Some Regional Systems
Schemes of Local co-operation and subject coverage e.g. London Univ. Libs. Law specialisation
UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Plus the loan service of Lewis's, Law Notes and the London Library to Subscribers.

Further Development of the N.C.L., Regional Systems, and the McColvin Report

As noted above, the Regional Systems developed rapidly in the thirties and in 1931 the Library Association appointed a National Committee on Regional Library Co-operation to act as liason between the N.C.L. and the Regional Bureaux. This was a standing committee and its formation underscores the secure place accorded library co-operation among British librarians. The Committee worked out policies on postal concessions, book insurance, statistical records and a profile of items to exclude from the catalogs. Participation of non-member libraries in the Regional System was encouraged by the Committee to increase revenue in the system. The Committee also investigated the usefulness of the union catalogs and determined that they were essential for an efficient national service.

In 1942, amidst World War II, the Emergency Committee of the Library Association determined to undertake an investigation of the Public Library situation in order to plan for the post-war period. The investigation was assigned to Lionel R. McColvin, Westminster Librarian, whose charge was to investigate "how far the public libraries . . . are achieving the purposes for which they have been established and maintained and to indicate ways in which the standard of achievement may be raised and extended."[17]

Mc Colvin's incisive investigation of the state of co-operation revealed that the library profession could no longer congratulate itself on simply setting up the structure for co-operation; it must make it work--or revamp it. He noted that 54,635 items were loaned through the Regional Bureaux System in 1939-40 and 36,638 items from the stock of the N.C.L. This breaks down to an average of 186 books for each of the 491 libraries participating in the scheme--a paltry use of a rather elaborate structure. His seven recommendations for the Regional Bureaux put a considerable challenge to the system, and bear summerizing here for they were to have influence on post-war developments:

1) There is no point in the Regional Bureauz System at all. This is is a national task. Work is being unnecessarily duplicated.
2) There is too much variation among the union catalogs of the the Regions making standardization impossible.
3) The machinery is too slow.
4) The system is too costly in terms of result.
5) The financial base is unfair. It ought to be payment for services rendered, not subsidized by all.
6) The union cataloges attempt to be too comprehensive and are wasteful for they include too many items that should be in all collections.
7) The schemes have done little to promote better local stocks.[18]

Mc Colvin also argues that the nation must develop specialization by co-ordinating acquisitions at both the local and national levels and that a national body must be organized to co-ordinate activities.

Though Mc Colvin's recommendations were little heeded, his study does illustrate that a critical point of view was developing towards the Regional Bureaux/ N.C.L. system long before governmental machinery moved to change it. The end of World War II saw a re-building in a more physical sense and great concern over provision of materials. The scheme for inter-lending was studied, but little was done to change it. In part this attitude may be attributed to justified satisfaction in the system as it was. For all its faults, British co-operation had earned the admiration and respect of librarians the world over. In 1953 Louis Shores noted that our colleagues across the Atlantic are out-distancing us in the area of library co-operation.[19] Shores' remark was made in a review of another major report issued ten years after Mc Colvin analyzed the British system--The Vollans Report.

## The Vollans Report on Library Co-operation

A backlog in union catalogs, lack of financial support and beginning dissatisfaction with the state of inter-library co-operation as expressed in the Mc Colvin Report were responsible for the appointment of a Joint Working Party to investigate the national library co-operation network. The Joint Working Party, consisting of delegates from the N.C.L. and the National Committe on Library Co-operation, discussed pressing questions relating to the national system: (1) how to deal with the back-log of the N.C.L. and Regional Bureaux Catalogues, (2) means of improving the scope and efficiency of the system, (3) financial requirements to accomplish better results, (4) reasonable current budgets for the Regional Bureaux once they were re-organized and (5) the relationship between the union catalogues of the Regional Bureaux and those of the N.C.L.[20]

Following the pattern of the Mc Colvin Report the Joint Working Party designated an investigator, Westminister Librarian, Robert F. Vollans, to survey the state of library co-operation in Great Britain.

The Vollans Report, issued in 1952, consisted of an examination of the working operations of the Regional Bureaux and the N.C.L. The Joint Working Party especially charged him to determine (1) coverage by each system of libraries within its own area; i.e. how many libraries are and should be in the system?,

(2) co-operation within each region regarding subject specialization, co-operative book purchase, retention of unique copies within the region and provision for foreign literature, (3) degree of success of the N.C.L. and its interactions with the Regional Bureaux and (4) state of union cataloging, its coverage, comprehensiveness, and scope at the Regional Bureaux and in the N.C.L.'s union and outlier catalogues.[21]

The recommendations of the Joint Working Party which derived from the Vollans Report were published in the Library Association Record and much discussed among concerned librarians. Because the Vollans Report stood until the mid-sixties as a blue-print for library co-operation in Britain it is worthwhile to consider the tenor of some of these recommendations: (1) the general structure is sound; no major changes in the regions, (2) university libraries [which borrowed directly from the N.C.L.] should join their Regional Systems, (3) union catalogues should be brought up-to-date, (4)from a date to be specified Regional catalogues should contain entries for British books by means of British National Bibliography (B.N.B.) numbers [n.b. the British did not have a national bibliography until 1950 when the job was undertaken by a private firm with the co-operation of the British Museum copyright office] (5) the N.C.L. National Union Catalogue will record no books listed in the B.N.B. after a specified date, (6) Regions should co-operate among themselves to ensure that coverage within each region includes all important current British materials, fiction reserves, and increased availability of periodicals, (11-15) clearer definition of the scope of what can and can't be borrowed--i.e. no current fiction, periodicals or books in print costing less than 25¢, (16) recommendations concerning the streamlining of interlibrary loan procedures for greater efficiency and (17-19) standards concerning staff, finance and government of the system.[22]

The most influential recommendations proved to be those concerning co-operative provision for purchase which will be discussed in detail below.

Though the Vollans Report has been roundly praised in the professional literature for its comprehensiveness and systematic method, it must berecognized that Vollans' influential conclusions, for the most part endorsed by the Joint Working Party, were that library co-operation in Britain is soundly based and that the union catalogues are essential to efficient inter-library operations.

Thus the Vollans Report failed in the main to heed the work of Mc Colvin and was instrumental in maintaining a system of decentralized national service for at least two more decades. The area in which Vollans did expand upon Mc Colvin was in the co-operative provision of materials. The various British efforts to de-centralize acquisitions were a prime concern of library co-operative efforts in the fifties. Turning to some of these efforts we can note how provision of materials was paramount in national concern while the mechanics of the system were to remain unchanged until the advent of the National Lending Library of Science and Technology and its iconoclastic director.

## Specialization Schemes

The Vollans-Joint Working Party recommendations which promoted regional self-sufficiency in order to alleviate the strain on the N.C.L., the experiment of London metropolitan libraries in co-operative purchasing, and the enticing vision held out by the Farmington Plan in the U.S., were all factors instrumental in the creation of a number of co-operative plans for joint provision of materials begun in Great Britain from 1948.

### The Metropolitan Special Collections Scheme

London library co-operation--co-operation between twenty-eight different borough librarians--was more easily fostered than elsewhere in the nation because of the desire of these librarians to provide for the city as a whole. This receptive climate for the common good resulted in the institution of the Metropolitan Special Collection Scheme. Each metropolitan public library agreed to be responsible for a subject specialty allocated in general Dewey Decimal classification. Each library was urged to work with any special library in its field in order to co-operate on that level. Libraries agreed to purchase material requested from its special collection if it was not owned (British co-operation has always been marked by this feature. If an item is requested but not owned either the Regional Bureau or the N.C. L. will purchase it). The scheme was not announced to users until five years after its inception so that there would be some depth when called upon to provide service.

The London Scheme is especially admirable because its intention was not to save money by co-operative acquisitions, but to provide within the metropolitan area better resources for specialized needs. The British concern

with maintaining the national/regional bookstock, a prevailing topic in the literature of co-operative purchase seems to view provision within the nation or region a greater good than even local strength.

The London Scheme was also important because it made a contribution toward a solution of storage problems. Transfers of books between libraries according to subject assignation ensured that at least one copy of each item would be preserved in the London area but did not require each library to be over conservative in its weeding of areas to which it was not assigned.

Direct access of London citizens to all participating libraries added strength to the Scheme. Statistics of inter-library lending for a single year--1952-3--reveal that of 24,058 requests 19,434 were satisfied within the London area.[23] Since London had always been a "region" its union catalogue at the N.C.L. continued to be updated in order to provide access to the contents of the Scheme.

### The South Eastern Regional Library Bureaux Scheme

The creation of a Regional Scheme in a non-metropolitan area was an outstanding achievement in co-operative acquisitions. The scope of this Scheme was limited in comparison to that of London's primarily because geographical realities made it less likely that the direct access that would occur in London would occur throughout the South Eastern Region. There was no intent to build research collections. The primary motivation of the South Eastern Scheme was to ensure that all newly published books listed in the B.N.B. were available in the region. After its second year of operation it was evaluated by one of the participants as the "most important development in the Region since the Region itself was established."[24] He estimated that three to four thousand items were being added per year which would have been ignored without subject specialization schemes. The success of the South Eastern Region and Vollans' recommendations stimulated the initiation of schemes in other regions.

### Other Regional Coverage Schemes

No other Regional Bureaux attempted a plan as comprehensive as those of London and the South Eastern Region, but a number of partial plans all instituted to expand local resources did appear in the early fifties.

In Wales libraries were allowed to select subjects in which they wished to specialize with the result that some subjects were not covered. Selective specialization was also instituted in the North Western Region. The East Midlands initiated a plan to provide for foreign language books as well as co-operative buying on a voluntary basis of new books purchased by no library.

Because most coverage plans founded upon the B.N.B. did not include fiction materials within their scope, it became apparent that some provision should be made in order to preserve fiction beyond the desires of the local reading public for good tales. In the Northern Region libraries co-operated to purchase and transfer novels to designated depositories in order to preserve all works of fiction for posterity. A similar program was instituted in London.

## Inter-Regional Coverage

Because less well populated regions could not attain self-sufficiency in British publications by co-operative buying, the National Committee on Regional Library Co-operation initiated an inter-regional scheme for acquiring all British books published subsequent to 1959. After that date the N.C.L. ceased to acquire books recorded in the B.N.B. and responsibility for their acquisition was distributed among the various regional libraries. The outcome was that 95-99 percent of all current British publications were covered. The N.C.L., no longer required to acquire British publications, was able to concentrate to a greater degree on the purchase of foreign materials and periodicals.

## Other Co-operative Acquisition Activities

### SCONUL

The Standing Conference on National and University Libraries (SCONUL) was established in 1950 in emulation of the (American) Association of Research Libraries. The Midwest Inter-Library Center and Farmington Plan seemed projects worthy of study, but the outcome of initial SCONUL meetings was to affirm the status quo as vested in the Regional Bureaux/N.C.L. borrowing structure. Ralph Esterquth, Director of the Midwest Inter-Library Center, in an ACRL monograph on British library co-operation notedthat among research libraries individualism is rampant and prevents the co-operative approach to problems that the ARL has managed. He also comments that it is unusual that

in Britain public libraries have initiated co-operation whereas in the U.S. it has been the research library which has been far ahead of the public. While the scholar affiliated with the university is often disappointed in his quest for books from other libraries, the serious reader who borrows through the public library stands a good chance of having his requests fulfilled. The beneficiary of library co-operation in Britain is the ordinary citizen whereas in the U.S. it has been the research scholar.[25]

Acquisition of foreign materials

Libraries with interests in foreign materials began co-operative acquisition efforts in a number of ways during the early sixties. Since it seemed the national schemes were not responsive to requests for foreign materials (due to lack of provision anywhere in the nation) area studies librarians met to consider co-operation.

SCOLMA

The most successful of these groups was the Standing Conference on Library Materials of Africa (SCOLMA). Established in 1962 SCOLMA sought to improve the coverage needed for African studies by co-ordinating acquisitions and creating bibliographic access to material. Individual libraries have respnsibility for different nations. SCOLMA has issued a newsletter, directory of special collections and lists of theses on Africa.

Other foreign acquisition schemes

While other groups were not as active as SCOLMA, interest was indicated in other areas and committees of an investigatory nature formed including the Committee on Latin America (COLA), SCONUL sub-committees on Oriental Studies and Slavonic Studies, Middle Eastern Libraries Committee (MELCOM), South Asian Libraries Group, China Library Group and Japan Library Group.

The groups concerned with Asia met under the aegis of SCONUL in order to chart resources and consult on book provision. They co-operated to produce a directory of resources but did not attempt a de-centralized acquisition project such as that of SCOLMA.

## SINTO and Other Local Co-operation

A few words need yet to be said about efforts toward co-operation not affiliated with the national scheme. These efforts, usually organized to provide information to management and industry, are outside the Regional Bureaux/N.C.L. structure primarily because their functions are to provide information as well as the physical object which contains the information. To this end these groups have sought, in the main, to provide bibliographic access via union lists, inquiry services, human resources clearinghouses, duplicate exchanges and the like.

Organized in 1932 to serve the industrial information needs of the Sheffield iron and steel area, the Sheffield Interchange Organization (SINTO) was a pioneer in local co-operation among libraries of both the public and private sectors. SINTO is important to the development of library co-operation in Britain for it provided a successful model of inter-type co-operation outside of the Regional Bureaux/N.C.L. scheme. (It should be recognized that British librarianship has had two divergent streams of development--that propounded by the Library Association and that propounded by Aslib [Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux]. The former has been more preoccupied with the traditional type of librarianship and the latter with information not so allied to an agency but more concerned with the transmission of information. It is Aslib which has promoted local co-operation groups such as SINTO.

In a discussion of local co-operative efforts H.A. Chesshyre delineated the requirements for a successful local scheme: (1) close study of user requirements, (2) close supervision of the scheme at all stages, (3) evaluation of costs, (4) publicity about the scheme, (5) an adequate range of services.[26] Chesshyre's consideration of costs and effect varies somewhat from the mainstream of British co-operative thinking which has studiously avoided cost-effectiveness studies. His thoughts about co-operation, however, reflect the Aslib approach to library problems--one we shall encounter again.

Appendix II contains a very partial list of SINTO patterned organizations of local co-operation.

## The Roberts Report and the Public Libraries Act of 1964

In 1959 at the time of the Roberts Report, still another study of the structure of British public library services, co-operation in Britain was in an intermediate stage. The national scheme of lending had been affirmed with reservations by Vollans, co-operative acquisitions on a regional basis were being effected and subsidiary co-operative information groups such as SINTO were flourishing. However, once the initial enthusiasm stirred by the Vollans Report had subsided, librarians realized that the continuation of a system built on local autonomy with minimal centralized direction (the N.C.L. was truly not a central agency in the way that the Library of Congress is--it was mainly a switching agency with a bookstock), was responsible for the lack of further achievement.

The Roberts Report, initiated by the Ministry of Education, was a review of the entire library system which included recommendations on co-operation, (1) statutory recognition of regions which should be required to provide a satisfactory system of co-operation locally and to work with the N.C.L. nationally, (2) cost of the regions would be borne by compulsory contributions from member libraries, (3) the cost of the N.C.L. should be borne by local authorities and other co-operating bodies who would be represented on its board and (4) Regional and National union catalogues should be completed.[25] These recommendations were important for they mark the first instance in these many reports wherein an argument for statutory participation is made. Earlier reports had made strong recommendations, but often regions with individual ideas continued on their course of individual development (such as Yorkshire which still did not have a union catalog.) Legal support might mend this situation.

Working Parties were established by the Ministry of Education to discuss the technical implications of the Roberts Report--including a committee on library co-operation. This committee recommended that the regions be reduced to four or five with a governing body called the Regional Council. They also urged that special and university libraries participate more fully in the union catalogs and that the catalogs be brought to date. Money was recommended for central storage facilities for the N.C.L.

The Roberts Report and the reports of the Working Parties were the basis for the Public Libraries Act of 1964 which provided for the Ministry of Education to oversee the development of public libraries and the statutory provision for regional councils.

Central Storage Facilities for the N.C.L.

Partly because of the Roberts Report the N.C.L. was granted funds to acquire a storage building. Facilities were leased by the N.C.L. at Woolwich Arsenal in 1962 for less frequently used materials in the humanities. Libraries throughout the nation were encouraged to deposit books and periodicals that would remain permanently available for loan. Material would be organized by "brief-listing" instead of being fully cataloged and the cards would be incorporated into the N.C.L. union catalog by the Berghoeffer filing system.[28]

This was a great advance for the N.C.L. for heretofore it had been argued that storage detracted from the main function of the N.C.L.--fucntioning as an inter-library loan center, and that the bookstock should be kept at a minimum. This was really a poor argument for practice had demonstrated that it was quicker to borrow directly from the N.C.L. central stock than via the Regional Bureaux.

The continual discussion which surrounded the N.C.L.--whether it should have a strong central stock for lending or should function administratively for the facilitation on inter-library borrowing--was somewhat overcome by the establishment of the Wollwich building. It should be recognized that the climate and mood for accepting central versus de-centralized storage had been created by the overwhleming success of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology.

Centralized Provision and the N.L.L.S.T.

In 1957-58 a number of items appeared in the professional literature which concerned the acquisition of material rather than the techniques of borrowing. D.J. Urquhart, from 1956 Director of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology (N.L.L.S.T.), fairly bursts onto the scene at this time with a number of provoking statements and challenges to the status quo which were to help pave the way for the radical restructuring of the British system in the early seventies.

The appointment of Urquhart to the directorship of the N.L.L.S.T. was the result of a growing governmental concern for the provision of scientific and technical information. Urquhart, a documentalist at the Science Museum Library, had innovative approaches to information retrieval--that worked--and was thus a natural choice to head up the lending department of the Science Museum Library when it became the N.L.L.S.T. and moved to Boston Spa in Yorkshire. Even before its formal dedication in 1962 the N.L.L.S.T. caused a great stir among librarians because of Urquhart's unorthodox ideas. So largely was Urquhart personally responsible for the huge success of the N.L.L.S.T. that its story is his story.

The launching of the Russian sputnik in 1957 called the world's attention to the lack of access to Russian scientific materials and marshalled British governmental support behind the establishment of a scientific library which would concentrate on the collection and translation of scientific materials. Out of this anxiety arose the N.L.L.S.T. and the willingness of governmental authorities to give full financial backing.

As the N.L.L.S.T. began to define its role, Urquhart harrangued the library world with a series of essays, lectures and discussion about its role and structure. His basic contention was that, in science and technology at least, a centralized storage of facilities more adequately serves the national interest than the de-centralization method of the National Library and the Outlier support. His basis for such claims was largely mathematical--Urquhart's condescension toward librarians who operate on intuition without quantifiable data is apparent throughout his writings--and he analyzes the cost of borrowing from the Regional/NCL. system versus the centralized facility to conclude that borrowing from centralized stock is far more expedient.

Continually critical of the "British Museum" mentality which aimed to preserve all for posterity, Urquhart strove to break through the humanities orientation of the majority of librarians in order to convince them that modern science needed <u>today's</u> publications, not an archive. With usage curves and user studies of scientific literature Urquhart demonstrated that most scientific literature has a use period of about twenty years after which it becomes obsolete. He published articles that demonstrated use falls sharply after five years and is negligible after twenty.

All of Urquhart's arguments were aimed at changing the attitude of the British library world. Rather than hoarding for the future he advocated disseminating literature quickly and cheaply to those who require it. His goal was that of a unique scientific collection not another petrified reference library available only to those who had the time and the means to travel to it.

Urquhart's iconoclasm struck at a time when the very structure of the British co-operative system was about to be challenged. He was one of the dissidents who would make the restructuring of the British system tenable.

The National Lending Library for Science and Technology

The N.L.L.S.T. merits a brief look at this point, not because it is "undoubtedly the major postwar development in the librarianship of science," as one of its critics noted, but because its success caused a hard look to be made by British librarians at the more traditional methods by which they executed inter-library lending.

Prior to the move to Boston Spa, Urquhart carried out many studies to determine the user needs of scientific researchers. He used the results of his studies to create a library completely responsive to the needs of users and not to the archival mentality.

His mandate, once the government had authorized the new facility, was to collect and hold available all the world's scientific literature, past and present. He concentrated upon serials, especially foreign ones, for he recognized that scientific data from books is usually far too old for the needs of the researcher.

To librarians one of the most disturbing aspects of the N.L.L.S.T. (yet one of its most economical features) is that most holdings are not centrally recorded. Library records are arranged on shelves in alphabetical order to expedite their use. Loans are usually filled on the day they are received and retrieval is not hindered by lack of cataloging. Users seeking to make use of the N.L.L.S.T. should regard abstracts and indexes as indicative of the library's holdings.

The services offered by the N.L.L.S.T. include (1) lending of serials and books, (2) supplies of Xerox prints, microfilm or microfiche, (3) translations of Russian journals, and a reading room for researchers

By 1970 the N.L.L.S.T. was satisfying approximately 89 percent of all requests. Overseas service was instituted in 1967 and even the Center for Research Libraries in the U.S. has found it efficient to borrow from the N.L.L.S.T.

Returning to an overview of British co-operation we must back up chronologically to the Parry Report, the next in the series of influential examinations of British library provision.

## University Libraries and the Parry Report

As has been noted above (p. 13) university library co-operation was characterized mainly by individualism and lack of real co-ordination other than interlibrary lending through the N.C.L. Unlike the U.S. research libraries with the Farmington Plan and MILC (later to be the Center for Research Libraries), the British university libraries were slow to initiate co-operative efforts.

Efforts at co-operative acquisitions were tenative and did not attempt anything as comprehensive as the Farmington Plan though that plan did color discussions. The SCOLMA group which organized to cover African studies is the only partially successful effort along these lines which British university librarians could point to. It should be emphasized that the two finest research collections in Britain, those at Oxford and Cambridge, steadfastly refrained from co-operation and thus under-cut any schemes which may have begun.

In 1963 the University Grants Committee commissioned Thomas Parry of the University of Wales to consider the general situation among university libraries. The report was intended to investigate the inadequacy of university libraries and was to include ways in which shared and central facilities might help meet expanding demands.

The Parry Report succinctly and comprehensively presented the role of the university library in Great Britain and dwelt greatly upon the future of co-operation. In doing so the Report extended its scope to make recommendations for a national library service. In its recommendations the Parry Report noted:

> It has been extremely difficult for us to relate the position of the university to the national scene for a variety of reasons of which the fundamental one is that there is no true apex to the library system of the country. 30

The committee recommended that the British Museum Library should become the British National Library in order to provide the level of national leadership achieved in other nations by the presence of a strong central library.

This National Library inter alia would be responsible for (1) organization of interlibrary loans, (2) provision of materials inadequately provided for elsewhere, such as foreign materials, (3) national reference and bibliographic services, co-ordination of systems in existence and a clearinghouse for over-seas enquiries and (4) dissemmination of information on national resources and initiator of library-related publications.[31]

Other recommendations in the Parry Report were that the university libraries truly participate in the Regional Schemes to avoid duplication of materials that was occurring.

The Parry Report was the first in the series of reports we have examined that suggested real changes in the existing structure. McColvin suggested changes that were far-reaching, but did not venture to suggest the abolition of the British Museum Library as a archival reading room. By far the most disturbing aspects of the Parry Report were his recommendation for a greatly altered British Museum Library and the absorption of the N.C.L.

Nothing evolved immediately from Parry, but it set the national mood for a change. In the words of one observer, "Ideas which had been simmering in the pot for a number of years now began to come to the boil."[32] In response to Parry the Library Association sent a memorandum to the Secretary of State affirming the recommendations and requesting another study to investigate the restructuring of the entire British library service. The establishment of the National Libraries Committee under F.S. Dainton heralded a new age in British Librarianship. The Dainton Report was the last in the long series of reports which have exerted so much influence on the development of libraries in Britain.

## The Dainton Report

In December of 1967 the Secretary of State for Education and Science appointed a committee under F.S. Dainton with the following terms of reference:

> To examine the functions and organisations of the British Museum Library, the National Central Library, the National Lending Library for Science and Technology and the Science Museum Library in providing national library facilities; to consider whether in the interests of efficiency and economy such facilities should be brought into a unified framework and to make recommendations. 33

The resultant report is a coherent and cogent set of observations about the state of the British library scence in 1967. The report will certainly stand as an historical resource for it describes succinctly the situation

before total re-organization occurred. Graphs and charts illustrate quantifiable data and the report is admirable in its assessment of the role of each institution described.

The Dainton Report was compiled by visits of the committee, hearings, surveys and documentray evidence from libraries and organizations. Supporting evidence was published in two large volumes along with the basic report.

The outcome of the Dainton Report was, of course a series of recommendation that bear re-iteration because, unlike so many other recommendations which have not been heeded, those of the Dainton Report were, in the main, implemented: (1) establishment of a National Libraries Authority which would seek to co-ordinate and develop the services and operations of the British Museum Library, the National Central Library, the National Lending Library for Science and Technology and the British National Bibliography. All would become the responsibility of the new statutory agency, (2) the British Museum Library would become the National Reference Library and under carefully controlled conditions would lend materials, (3) the N.C.L. would be transferred to Boston Spa at the N.L.L.S.T., (4) the National Union Catalogue would be brought up to date and (5) a national bibliographic service would combine, co-ordinate and develop the bibliographic resources of all agencies--especially the British National Bibliography.[34]

## The British Library

The Dainton Report was received in summer of 1969 and a feasibility study undertaken to determine the role of automation in the national library system.

In January of 1971 a White Paper, The British Library, appeared setting up an outline for the British Library, the umbrella term for the new unified structure outlined by Dainton. The White Paper also indicated that a committee to formed to work out the mechanics of the new agency. In July of 1972 the British Libary Act was signed into law.

These actions, following upon the Dainton Report, indicate the degree to which dissatisfaction with the decentralized library service had grown. The rapidity with which a restructuring took place is indicative of the climate for change.

A British Library Board was instituted to govern the new British Library which consisted of the British Museum Library, the N.C.L., the N.L.L.S.T.,

and the B.N.B. The Board included the chief executive of the British Library. Three divisions were created: the Reference Division located in London and consisting of the British Museum Library and the National Reference Library of Science and Invenstion, the Lending Division located at Boston Spa and consisting of the N.L.L.S.T.and the N.C.L., and the Bibliographic Division based on the B.N.B. but including the processing and cataloging operations of the British Museum Library.

## Tradition versus Innovation

The amount of responsibility which can be credited to the influence of Urquhart for the new library structure is difficult to ascertain. Once he had established the greater efficiency of centralized storage for retrieval in science and technology he reached out to prove that the social sciences too could be better served by storage in a central facility. Once the social sciences had come under his control he reached out for the humanities.

At this point a little human drama enters into the long chronology we have been following. See Sources Consulted (end of this paper) and compare the bibliographical citations for Urquhart and S.P.L. Filon. Filon, long director of the N.C.L., fights valiantly for the old ways and does not fare too well in the attacks upon the status quo he suffers from Urquhart.

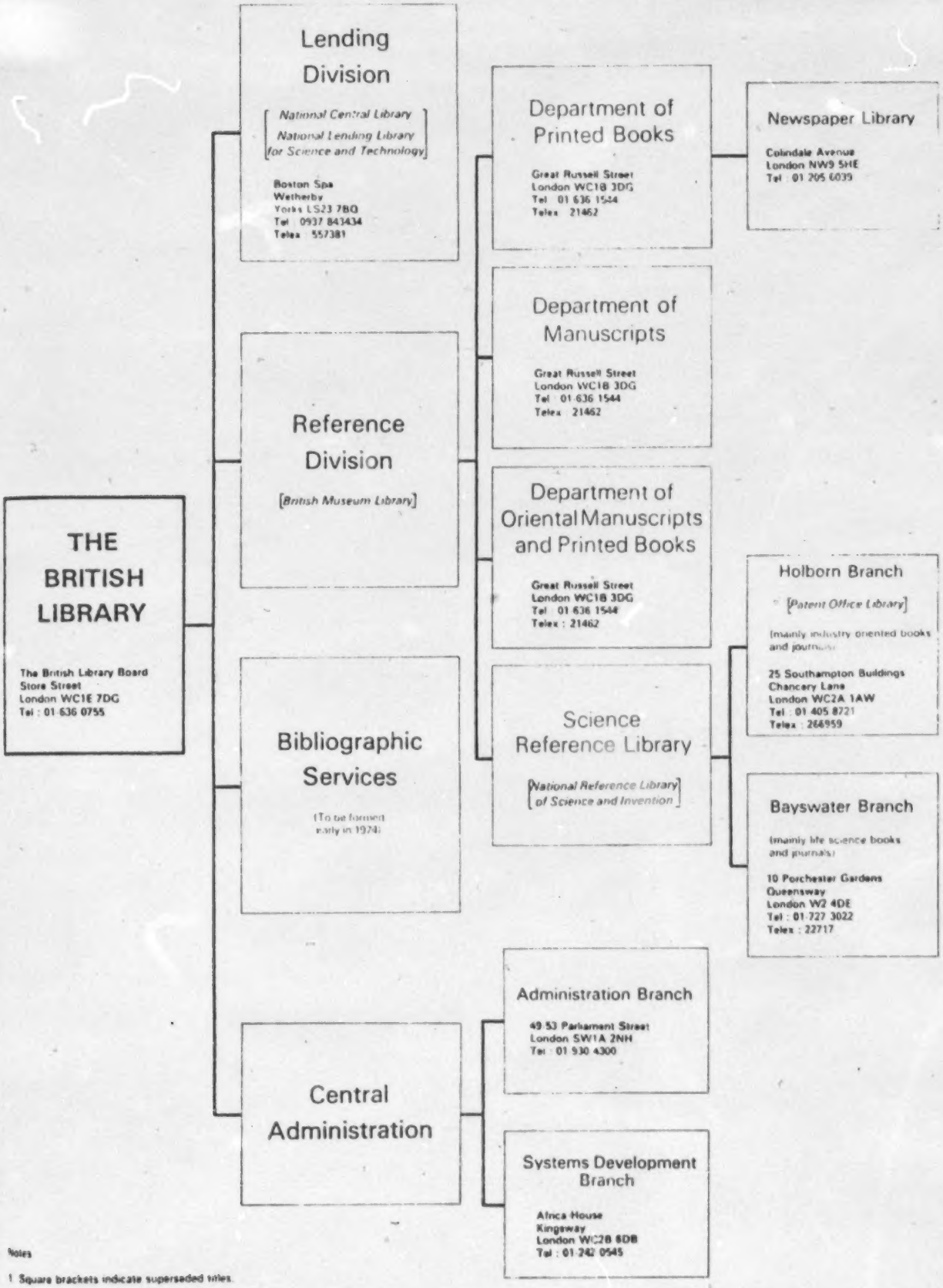
The scientific method wins out, of course, and we note that Urquhart became the Director of the N.L.L.S.T. and N.C.L. at Boston Spa while Filon retires. Even the most efficiency minded must experience a momentary pang for the humanities. Filon, in answer to an article by Urquhart wherein Urquhart argued for a humanities facility analogous to the N.L.L.S.T., takes a charming jibe at Urquhart. He notes that the matter should be discussed objectively rather than by a series of "pseudo Jovian thunders from a sort of Eboracian [an ancient name for Yorkshire] Mount Olympus."[35] There is so much to be read between those lines! Filon seems to indicate his grudging acknowledgment that today's society accords science heavenly powers.

Filon's misgivings were well borne out by a disturbing (for the humanities advocate) paragraph in the Dainton Report:

> In some fields--especially science, technology, economics and management studies--library and information services will be so important to industry and commerce, and hence to the prosperity of the country, that the most comprehensive services will be regarded as necessary. But in some other disciplines, because a relatively low quantity of demand is associated with a vast quantity of potentially relevant material and also because it may not be possible to give as high a priority to services which are less directly related to the nations economic wellbeing, it will probably continue to be impracticable to provide comprehensive coverage or so elaborate a range of information service. 36

But to return to the structure of the new national service, the British Library, matters might be clarified by a chart of relationships which appeared in the Library Association Record.

# STRUCTURE OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY[37]




Notes

1 Square brackets indicate superseded titles.

2 OSTI, The Office for Scientific and Technical Information, with its function extended to include the arts and humanities, will join The British Library on 1 April 1974.

## Divisions of the British Library

### The Reference Division

The Reference Division, consistenting of the British Museum Library and other smaller libaries affiliated with the Museum, will be the major reference collection in the nation and aims at comprehensive acquisiition of reference materials. Major re-organization is in store. The greatest problem of this division is cataloging. The British Museum has long had its own system which differs from that of the B.N.B.and necessitates a great duplication of effort and wasted money. Probable economies will come about through the use of MARC tapes and PRECIS subject headings (used in the B.N.B)

### The Bibliographic Services Division

The B.N.B. will continue to be produced but will extend its coverage to include maps, government publications, and non-print material (probably in co-operation with the British Media Record).

Besides basic bibliographical data the Bibliographic Services Division hopes to make use of machine readable data bases to provide current awareness services, retrospective searches, and the like.

The provision of catalog cards--which has been done in a minimum way in Britain (libraries throughout the nation duplicating effort unlike the U.S. which is greatly advanced in this area of co-operation.)--will be expanded so that the Bibliographic Services Division will take on a scope of responsibility similar to that of the Library of Congress printed card service, but based primarily on entries recorded in the B.N.B.

### The Lending Division

The most developed of the new British Library components is the Lending Division which will consist of the N.L.L.S.T. and the N.C.L. both located at Boston Spa. Interlibrary lending is highly developed in Britain and three million items are exchanged per year.

In Britain, as we have seen, it has been proven that lending from central stock is cheaper, quicker and more apt to be successful than plans of de-centralized lending.[38] The central stock will have to be supplemented--especially in the humanities-by the stocks of the regional libraries and location will continue to be made by use of the old system of regional union

catalogs built up over the past fifty years. To supplement these catalogs microfilming will be done of catalogs whose libraries did not participate in the scheme.

LASER

In 1969 the London and South Eastern Regions merged to form a super region called LASER (London and South Eastern Region). The efforts of this region to merge their union catalogs based on ISBN was seen to be efficient and a wise use of automation. The British Library adopted their system to do all union cataloging by ISBN with coded location symbols subject to a computer sort for all the regions. This system will allow a comprehensive intake of all acquisitions (with ISBN numbers) and will provide the Lending Division with locations for the facilitation of loan requests. There is some talk of using this system to catalog retrospectively, but at this time the regional catalogs provide the only key to the nation's retrospectively acquired resources.

## Conclusions and General Observations

The fifty year period over which we have surveyed the development of British Library co-operation has seen the rise of a complex system of de-centralization in the form of the Regional Bureaux and the expansion of this concept to the point wherein frustration resulted.

Evolving theories of information retrieval and the realities of cost accounting eventually resulted in a re-orientation of British library thinking and permitted the development of a library system with strong centralized facilities which has proved itself to be the best agency for serving interlibrary needs.

A number of questions naturally come to mind as one compares the developments of Britain with those in the U.S. Certainly the British Regional Scheme is like nothing else so much than a state-wide public library system. If we consider Illinois as analogous to Britain (though the former is somewhat the larger) and public library systems as analogous to the Regional Bureaux we can make some strong comparisons.

In Illinois interlibrary lending is facilitated through switching aimilar to that done in Britain at the Regional Bureaux. That is, a request

not filled at the local level is submitted to the Systems Headquarters/Regional Bureaux and if not fillable through Systems/Regional resources is sent on to the Reference and Research Center/ N.C.L. where the request is processed and possibly switched to another center. The question of why the U.S. as it creates a complex of public library systems (tied in with different degrees to the non-public sector) does not heed the experience of Britain is puzzling. Indeed, there are scant references to British co-operation in the American library press.

That the British Library in its newly restructured lending capacity is highly successful need only be affirmed by recognition of the fact that the Center for Research Libraries deals directly with the National Lending Library for provision of materials to U.S. researchers. That a nation as rich in resources as the U.S. is not able to provide the level of service of a poorer and much smaller nation mandates that the U.S. re-examine the structure of library co-operation with a sharply critical eye to the burgeoning of public library systems, vested interests that will, like the scheme largely overthrown in Britain, prove very hard to stir to change.

Footnotes

[1]United States. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, A National Program for Libraries and Information Services, 2d. Draft (rev.) Washington, D.C. September 15, 1974.

[2]W.G.S. Adams, A Report on Library Provision and Policy (Hertford, England: Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, 1915), pp. 14-17.

[3]Ibid., pp. 20-21.

[4]County Library Conference, Report of the Proceedings (London: Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, 1924), p.11.

[5]Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, Annual Report, 1921.

[6]Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, Annual Report, 1925

[7]Adams, p.21.

[8]Alfred W. Pollard, "The Central Library for Students," Library Association Record 19 (October 1917): 377.

[9]F.A. Keyse, "The Birth of County Libraries: CUKT Experiments, 1915-1919." Journal of Librarianship 1 (July, 1969): 183-190.

[10]The full name of the committee was the Third Interim Report of the Ministry of Reconstruction on Adult Education.

[11]Great Britain, Public Libraries Committee, Report on Public Libraries in England and Wales by Sir Frederic G. Kenyon, Chairman (London HMSO, 1927; reprint edition, University Microfilms, 1970), p. 3.

[12]Ibid., p. 151.

[13]Ibid., p. 155.

[14]Ibid., p. 162.

[15]R.F. Vollans, Library Co-operation in Great Britain: Report of a Survey of the National Central Library and the Regional Bureaux (London: National Central Library, 1952), p.6.

[16]P.H. Sewell, The Regional Library Systems (London: The Library Association, 1956), pp. 34-35.

[17]Lionel R. McColvin, The Public Library System of Great Britian: A Report on Its Present Condition with Proposals for Post-War Reorganization (London: The Libray Association, 1942), p.1.

[18]Ibid., pp. 103-104.

[19]Louis Shores, review of Library Co-operation in Great Britain by R.F. Vollans. Library Quarterly 23 (October 1953), p.1.

[20]Vollans, p.xi.

[21]Ibid., pp. xi-xii.

[22]"Recommendations on Library Co-operation, Library Association Record 57 (July 1954): 248-251.

[23]K.G. Hunt, Subject Specialization and Co-operative Book Purchase in the Libraries of Great Britain (London: The Library Association, 1955), p. 22.

[24]M.C. Pottinger, "Library Co-operation" in Five Years' Work in Librarianship, ed. P.H. Sewell (London: The Library Association, 1958), p. 256.

[25]Ralph T. Esterqueth, Library Co-operation in the British Isles (chicago: Association of College and Reference Libraries, 1955), p. 21.

[26]H.A. Chesshyre, "Local Co-operation--A Positive Force," Aslib Proceedings 18 ( April, 1966) : 93.

[27]I.P. Gibb, "Library Co-operation in the United Kingdom," in Five Years' Work in Librarianship, ed. by P.H. Sewell (London: The Library Association, 1965), p.42.

[28]P.W.Plumb, Central Library Storage of Books (London: Library Association, 1965), p. 42.

[29]Peterg G. Watson, Great Britain's National Lending Library (Los Angelos: University of California School of Library Service, 1970), p.1.

[30]Great Britain, University Grants Committee, Report of the Committee on Libraries, by Thomas Parry, Chairman (London HMSO, 1967), p. 81.

[31]Ibid., pp. 160-61.

[32]D.T. Richnell, "The National Library Problem," Library Association Record 70 (June, 1968): 148.

[33]Great Britian, National Libraries Committee, Report of the National Libraries Committee (London HMSO, 1969), p.1 (F.S. Dainton, Chairman).

[34]Ibid., p. xii - xv.

[35]S.P.L. Filon, "The Regional Bureaux and the N.L.L. : A Reply to Dr. Urquhart," Library Association Record 72 (June 1970) :48.

[36]Dainton, p. 54-55.

[37]"Structure of the British Library," Library Association Record 75 (December 1973).

[38]Line, M.B. "National Library Planning in the United Kingdom," Australian Library Journal 23 (February 74): 5.

Appendix I

Regional Library Bureaux and Counties Contained Therein

| | |
|---|---|
| London | 28 Metropolitan Boroughs |
| South Eastern | Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex |
| | ABOVE TWO REGIONS MERGED INTO LASER in 1970 London and South Eastern Region |
| East Midlands | Cambridgeshire, Derbyshire, Huntingdonshire, the Isle of Ely, Leicestershire, Rutland |
| Northern | Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland and the Cleveland District of the North Riding of Yorkshire |
| North Western | Lancashire, Cheshire and the Isle of Man |
| South Western | Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Wiltshire |
| West Midlands | Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire |
| Yorkshire | Yorkshire |
| WALES | |
| Regional Library at Cardiff | Glamorgan, Monmouthshire |
| Aberystwyth | Remainder of Wales |
| SCOTLAND | |
| Scottish Central Library | All of Scotland |

Source: Betty M. Elsmore, "Regional Library Bureaux," Library Association Record 66 (July 1964) : 306.

Appendix II

## A Summary of Local Established Co-operative Schemes

| Name | Purpose | Date Established |
|---|---|---|
| BRASTACS (Bradford Scientific Technical and Commercial Service) | pure and applied science needs in Bradford area. | 1956 |
| CADIG (Coventry and District Information Group) | scientific information | 1953 |
| CICRIS (West London Commericial and Technical Library Service) | scientific & technical information. | 1951 |
| HADIS (Huddersfield and District Information Service) | scientific needs of industrial firms in Huddersfield | 1959 |
| HATRICS (Hampshire Technical Research Industrial Commercial Service) | scientific needs of central south coast | 1964 |
| HERTIS (Hertfordshire County Council Technical Library and Information Service) | needs of anyone who wants to join (area of Hertford is naturally strong.) | 1956 |
| LADSIRLAC (Liverpool and District Scientific, Industrial and Research Library Advisory Council) | information needs of Merseyside and Western Lancashire, but no real limitation | 1955 |
| NANTIS (Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Technical Information Service) | industrial information needs of Nottinghamshire | 1962 |
| SINTO (Sheffield Interchange Organization) | information needs of Sheffield | 1932 |
| TALIC (Tyneside Association of Libraries for Industry and Commerce) | information needs of Tyneside area libraries | 1958 |

Source: H.A. Chesshyre, "Local Co-operation--a Postive Force," Aslib Proceedings 18 (April 1966): 92-103.

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